

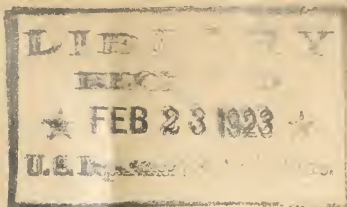
## **Historic, archived document**

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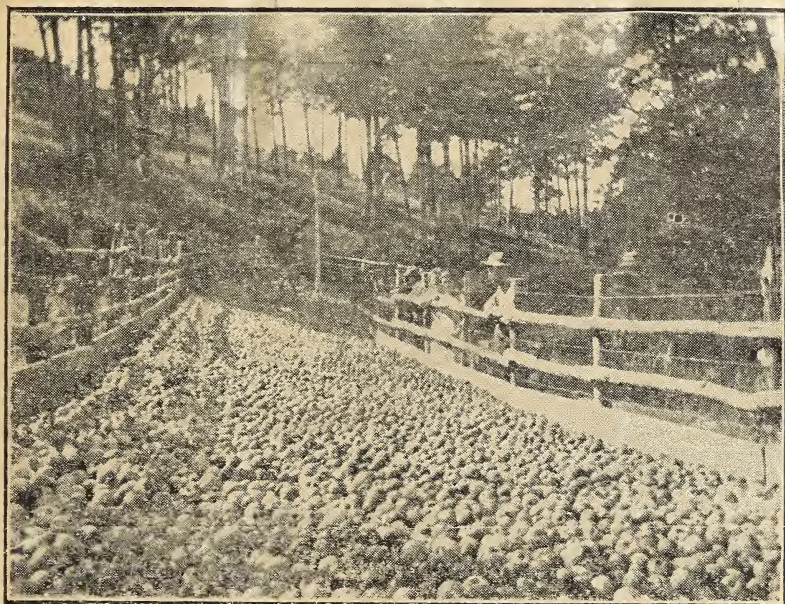


PRICE LIST OF  
**NURSERY STOCK**

YEARS 1923-24

**John Robertson's Nurseries**

HOT SPRINGS, SOUTH DAKOTA



**STATEMENT TO THE PUBLIC**

The above picture shows a pen of Wealthy apples as it looked about the last day of September, 1922, when we finished picking this sort. There was a lot of apples in this pen, but we had about as many more Wealthy stored in other places. Then there were all the other varieties of apples, that are considered better keepers, that took about all the cellar space in storage. This same pen, which is twelve feet wide and 75 feet long, was filled with Wealthy apples in the fall of 1921, the year when apples were scarce on account of the late spring freeze. I've never known a crop failure, but am often damaged by hail. I do not

consider my success due to location, but mainly due to care. Apples are the bulk of the crop, but are only one of several divisions of fruit grown. Annual crops of currants, gooseberries, raspberries, and plums has been the rule for many years past; and a steadily increasing custom has been worked up for the fruit. It has not been a question of finding a market for currants and raspberries, but of growing enough to supply the demand. The reason for this is, that these two fruits are not so generally grown as some others, and they find a ready sale to the consumer. I've just mentioned a few things to say to

of the fruit is the main issue on this place, and the fruit is grown in a small side line. It is not so much in their worth in the orchard, in comparison with some of the other fruit, before any are propagated in the nursery to be sold. They are not so much in the best of the fruit. They are in this way we do not do such a large business as with fruit personally supervise; seeing that everything is strictly true to name and properly packed.

I have a great liking and interest in this work. I thoroughly believe in it; and my trees and plants are not just sent out for the money value received, but with a sincere desire that they will be a benefit to the customer. I write many letters to those asking information, but I cannot write to all as I would like. I would appreciate hearing from those who have got nursery stock from me in years past, saying what success they have had. Those who have faith in me, and a desire to learn more about fruit growing on the dry lands of the Northwest, will find helpful articles at times in the horticultural department of "The Dakota Farmer," published at Aberdeen, South Dakota.

### VARIETIES TO PLANT

In the family orchard one should plant a few of most of the sorts I list, but it is a mistake to plant many summer apples or crabs, unless you are situated where you can sell the surplus fruit. Plant more Wealthy than any other one sort; also Jewell's Winter for a later keeper. If your soil and location is good, and you are not above 4,000 feet elevation, you may grow the McIntosh Red, which is a very high grade late keeping apple; and the Ben Davis, which is the latest keeper of all. Plums, and small fruits, such as currants, gooseberries, and raspberries, do well and come into bearing earlier than apple trees.

### PLANTING

Early spring is the time to plant in the dry northwest. Apple trees should be planted not less than thirty feet apart each way, so as to allow for spread of roots in search of moisture, as the tree grows larger without competition with the roots of other trees or plants. After a tree becomes established its roots always extend as far in all directions as the tree is high, often reaching much farther. As a rule it is a good method to plow the orchard site quite deeply, leaving a deep dead-furrow where each row of trees is to be. Dig wide and deep holes, especially if soil is hard. Use fine, moist surface soil to fill around roots, setting tree about same depth it grew in nursery, but leaving a basin of some extent around it to catch water from rains. This plan is especially good where there is a slope that allows water to run off. Do not allow basin to fill in by cultivation for a few



years. When finally leveled up, the tree is some deeper than it was in nursery. All limbs of newly set trees should be cut back about two-thirds of last year's growth.

One row of small fruits may be planted between each two rows of trees, and dug out in say ten years, when the trees will be large enough to need all the moisture which falls between. Some little crop, like potatoes and garden stuff, may be grown in the orchard the first two or three years, but never plant anything close enough to take the moisture the trees may reach with their roots. Never allow weeds to grow at any time; you need the moisture for the trees. These rules are mainly for growing fruits with the natural rainfall on dry subsoil land.

#### ORDERING

Do not order until it is time to plant, before ordering. I will not make any order until I have seen the stock, and the quantity checked from this list as received. As I do not practice the common custom of having it wholesale from other parties, I must get short in, when a variety is all taken, that is the end of it. I acknowledge each order when received, and if there is anything I can't fill on I mention it. This gives you a chance to get it somewhere else, if you are not too late. Then too, your order can be put up and sent, just a few days ahead of the rush. There are always plenty who wait till the last. The seasons vary, but as a rule we begin shipping about April 1st. Trees and shrubbery set during April generally do better than that set after May 15.

#### PARCEL POST

Those living at a distance from the railroad can get very good service by parcel post. The limit of length and circumference of a package, combined, is now 84 inches. By cutting the tops back, as they should be anyway after planting, I can mail pretty fair sized stock. Those ordering this way should make allowance for postage.

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Five of one kind and ten of not over three varieties at ten rates. Not over five varieties allowed at fifty rates. Where long lists of one or two of each sort are wanted, they must be paid for at single rates. No orders booked or shipped until paid for in full. Send enough money to cover cost of sizes and sorts of your choice, saying if you will allow me to substitute other sizes and sorts for any I may be out of. It is not my intention to substitute without permission; but if you are very particular about this part you will favor me by mentioning it. The plants are fully up to the sizes given. I do not charge you for a large plant and then send you a smaller one without returning the difference in price. We do not try to keep all the money we get hold of, or maybe keep you waiting another year till we grow something; but return any part due you, not later than time of shipping. Each one is notified by letter at time stock is sent, whether by mail or express. If there is anything the matter, in the way of complaint, when you receive stock, notify me at once. I do not replace "free" nor at "half price," but if I have reason to think there has been any mistake or fault at this end of the line, I will make it good, either in the price paid or in other stock.

Address all orders to JOHN ROBERTSON, Hot Springs, South Dakota, box 237.

## VARIETIES AND PRICES

**APPLES AND CRABS**—Named in the order of ripening: Yellow Transparent, Duchess, Hibernial, Wealthy, McIntosh Red, Jewell's Winter, and Ben Davis; and the Crabs: Whitney and Florence, which mature about September 1st.

2 to 3 feet size, 30c each; per 10 \$2.75; per 100 \$25.00.

3 to 4 feet size, 50c each; per 10 \$4.50; per 100 \$35.00.

4 to 6 feet size, 70c each; per 10 \$6.00; per 100 \$50.00.

We have a few Red Wing, Goodhue, Winter Rose, Victor Sweet, etc., varieties which seem hardy and promising.

**CHERRIES**—Red or Black—2 to 3 feet, 30 cents each; per 10, \$2.50; 3 to 4 feet, 45 cents each; per 10, \$4.00.

**PLUMS**—I have the Opata, Sapa, Waneta, and Tecumseh to offer. Opata is the sort to plant most of. These are all varieties originated by Prof. Hansen at Brookings, S. D., and are of the best. Price, 2 to 3 feet, 50 cents each; per 10, \$4.50; 3 to 4 feet, 70 cents each; per 10, \$6.50.

**GOOSEBERRIES**—The Carrie is the most successful, and a dependable annual bearer. The Josselyn is very large, and a heavy bearer after it becomes established. Price, strong 2-year-old plants, 25 cents each; per 10, \$2.00; per 50, (Carrie only) \$7.50.

**CURRENTS**—The Wilder, Diploma, and Perfection are of the largest size, and of about same time in ripening. The Franco-German is smaller but later to ripen and is the most vigorous under hard conditions. The Wilder has been my leader as a market sort for many years, and I have a larger stock of plants in it than of the others. Price, strong 2-year-old plants, 20 cents each; per 10, \$1.50; per 50, (Wilder only) \$5.00.

**RED RASPBERRIES**—The Sunbeam is the hardiest, of fine quality; but only medium in size, and rather soft. The Latham is next to Sunbeam in hardness, is very large and firm, and the heaviest of bearers. I've tried out many varieties of raspberries in growing them for market, and the Latham is a leader away ahead of all. Price, strong plants, 15 cents each; per 10, \$1.00; per 25, \$2.00; per 50, \$3.00; per 100, \$5.00. Can only supply Sunbeam at single and 10 rates.

**STRAWBERRIES**—The strawberry is a shallow-rooted plant that I've never made a real success of in growing without irrigation. The plants do very well in bearing fruit, but in setting plants during late summer when weather becomes dry, there are not enough to pay; so I will not offer them.

**ASPARAGUS**—Easy to grow and should be in every garden. Price, 2-year-old plants, 25 for 50 cents; per 100, \$1.50.

**RHUBARB**—Large wine plant variety. Division roots, grown 1 year in nursery. Price, 25 cents each; per 10, \$2.00.

**PURPLE AND WHITE LILACS**—Price, strong plants, 25 cents each; per 10, \$2.00.

**ROSES**—Rosa Rugosa, and Tetonkaha. Both hardy without winter protection. Price, 40 cents each; per 10, \$3.50.

**PEONIES**—Festiva Maxima, white; and Rubra Superba, red. Price, 50 cents per plant from division roots.